

**NL INDUSTRIES/TARACORP SUPERFUND SITE GROUP
LEED ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.
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February 2, 2001

First Class Mail

Mr. Brad Bradley
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

**RE: NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site; Granite City, Illinois
Consent Decree
Voluntary Progress Report 21 (January 2001)**

Dear Mr. Bradley:

As requested by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), two copies of this letter are submitted on behalf of the NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site Group ("Group") on a voluntary basis to provide EPA with a progress report for activities related to the remediation of the residential lots and remote fill areas, the remediation of the Taracorp pile, the remedial design and remedial action for groundwater, and operation and maintenance activities that were performed in regard to the NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site (the "site") during January 2001.

1. Actions Taken During Previous Month to Comply with the Consent Decree:

- On January 2, 2001, the Group's project coordinator issued a voluntary progress report to EPA.
- On or about January 27, 2001, the Group's project coordinator received two January 22, 2001 letters from EPA which provided EPA's conditional approval of the Remedial Action Report for the residential lots and remote fill areas and conditional approval of the Remedial Action Report for the Taracorp pile and industrial area. The Group's project coordinator provided copies of EPA's conditional approval letters to ENTACT, Inc. ("ENTACT") and requested that ENTACT provide revised pages and appendices to the reports to EPA to address EPA's comments and to complete the reports.



- On or about January 27, 2001, the Group's project coordinator received EPA's January 22, 2001 letter which provided EPA's comments on the Operation and Maintenance Plan for the industrial property at the site. The Group's project coordinator provided EPA's comments to ENTACT and requested that ENTACT revise the plan to address EPA's comment and to expand the plan to address residential areas.

2. **Summary of Data and/or Results of Sampling and Tests Received:**

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

3. **Work Plans, Plans, and Other Deliverables Completed and Submitted to EPA During the Previous Month:**

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

4. **Actions, Data Collection, and Implementation of Work Plans and Other Information Related to the Progress of Construction which are Scheduled to be Performed During the Next Six-Week Period:**

- ENTACT will continue to revise the Remedial Action Report for the residential lots and remote fill areas and the Remedial Action Report for the Taracorp pile and industrial site to address EPA's comments. At the present time, the Group anticipates that ENTACT will address EPA's comments and submit revised pages and appendices to EPA in February 2001 to complete the reports.
- ENTACT will initiate efforts to prepare a revised Operation and Maintenance Plan to address EPA's January 22, 2001 comments. In addition, ENTACT will initiate efforts to expand the Operation and Maintenance Plan to include operation and maintenance activities for off-site areas.
- Upon receipt of comments, if any, from EPA on the Groundwater Monitoring Plan, the Group and ARCADIS Geraghty & Miller ("ARCADIS") will initiate efforts to address the comments and prepare a revised plan.
- Upon receipt of EPA's comments, if any, on the Pre-Design Investigation Report for Groundwater, the Group and ARCADIS will initiate efforts to address the comments and prepare a revised report.

5. **Problems Encountered, Anticipated Problems, Actual or Anticipated Delays, and Efforts Developed or Implemented to Mitigate Delays:**

- Not applicable of this reporting period.

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6. **Modifications to Work Plans or Schedules Proposed to EPA or Approved by EPA:**

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

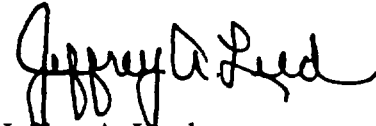
7. **Community Relations Activities During Previous Month or to be Undertaken During Next Six-Week Period:**

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

Should you or your staff have questions or comments regarding this progress report, please contact this office at (610) 670-7310.

Very truly yours,

LEED ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.



Jeffrey A. Leed
Project Coordinator

cc: Ms. Sandra Bron - Illinois EPA (by first class mail)
Mr. Tim Healy - ENTACT, Inc. (by first class mail)
Mr. Jack Kratzmeyer - ARCADIS Geraghty & Miller (by first class mail)
Technical Committee, NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site Group (by first class mail)